

U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation 935 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20535-0001

Mr. Ernie Lazar Post Office Box 423434 San Francisco, CA 94142-3434

File 157-9-54
Subject of Request: Serials 4, 14, 25, 38

FOIPA No. 397, 649 /190- HQ-1250810

Dear Requester:

Enclosed are copies of documents from FBI records. Excisions have been made to protect information exempt from disclosure pursuant to Title 5, United States Code, Section 552 (Freedom of Information Act) and/or Section 552a (Privacy Act). In addition, where excisions were made, the appropriate exempting subsections have been cited opposite the deletions. Where pages have been withheld in their entirety, a deleted page information sheet has been substituted showing the reasons or basis for the deletion. The subsections cited for withholding information from the enclosed documents are marked below:

Section 552		Section 552a
□ (b)(1)	□ (b)(7)(A)	□ (d)(5)
□ (b)(2)	□ (b)(7)(B)	□ (j)(2)
□ (b)(3)		□ (k)(1)
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	(b)(7)(E)	□ (k)(3)
	(b)(7)(F)	□ (k)(4)
□ (b)(4)	□ (b)(8)	☐ (k)(5)
□ (b)(5)	□ (b)(9)	☐ (k)(6)
□ (b)(6)		□ (k)(7)
(See Form OPCA-16a, enclosed, fo	r an explanation of these exempti	ions.)
Pursuant to your request, 8 being released.	pages(s) were reviewed	and 8 page(s) are
During the review of material perti- which	nent to the subject of your reques	st, documents were located
originated with another Gover These documents were referre	nment agency(ies). d to that agency(ies) for review a	and direct response to you
	by another Government agency(ie this information following our co	(1. 15m) - 15m

- If you desire, you may appeal any denials contained herein. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Co-Director, Office of Information and Privacy, U.S. Department of Justice, Flag Building, Suite 570, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001 within sixty days from receipt of this letter. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.
- The enclosed material is from the main investigative file(s) in which the subject of your request was the subject of the investigation. There are additional references to the subject(s) of your request in files relating to other individuals, organizations, events or activities. These additional mentions or references have not been reviewed to determine if, in fact, they are identifiable with the subject(s) of your request. Our experience has shown that such references are frequently similar to information contained in the processed main file(s). We will process these references if you now make a specific request for them. However, because of a significant increase in FOIPA requests and an expanding backlog, we have given priority to the processing of main investigative files and can only complete the processing of these additional references as time and resources permit.

See additional information which follows.

Sincerely yours,

Chief

Freedom of Information-Privacy Acts Section

Office of Public and Congressional Affairs

Enclosures (2)

Enclosed are documents pursuant to your request for 157-9-54, serials 4, 14, 25, and 38. For your information, these documents are also located in the FOIPA Reading Room at FBI Headquarters.

Freedom of Information and Privacy Acts

SUBJECT FILE 157-9-54

FILE NUMBER SERIALS 4, 14, 25 and 38



Federal Bureau of Investigation

Memorandum

то :

DIRECTOR, FBI (157-9-54)

DATE: 4/14/65

FROM (SAC JACKSON (157-640) (P)

0-15114-19-65 6+486 4-10-65

SUBJECT: COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAM

INTERNAL SECURITY - DISRUPTION OF HATE GROUPS

(SAMUEL HOLLOWAY BOWERS)

ReBulet to JN, 3/9/65 and JN1et to Bureau, 1/21/65, captioned "SAMUEL HOLLOWAY BOWERS" and "WHITE KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN OF MISSISSIPPI".

Considerable thought has been given to other techniques along the lines of those set out in reJNlet by which to expose SAMUEL HOLLOWAY BOWERS. Imperial Wizard, WKKKKOM. However, nothing of preponderance has been conceived. It is noted that at present BOWERS is being interviewed by Agents with a view toward making him an informant. In the light of his development, this technique is being held in abeyance pending further developments in this regard.

It is noted that the HCUA is very much interested in calling BOWERS to testify at the proposed hearings and every opportunity will be made to exploit this situation to expose BOWERS publicly as the Imperial Wizard of the WKKKKOM.

EX-TTL 157-9-54-4

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DIRECTOR, FBI (157-9-Main)

DATE: 10/20/65

FROM

SAC, JACKSON (157-640)

SUBJECT:

COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAM
INTERNAL SECURITY
DISRUPTION OF HATE GROUPS

Wosh.

Re Bureau letter to Atlanta dated 9/2/64.

1. POTENTIAL COUNTERINTELLIGENCE ACTION

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that SAM BOWERS, Imperial Wizard of the WKKKKOM and certain other Klansmen who will soon be leaving for Washington under subpoens to testify before the HCUA regarding Klan activities. Consideration is being given to make arrangements with the press or to otherwise obtain a photograph of BOWERS getting off of the plane as he returns from the HCUA hearings in Washington. Further arrangements will be made to have the photograph publicized with the proper caption such as "SAM BOWERS, Imperial Wizard of the WKKKKOM returns from Washington after testifying before the HCUA regarding Klan Activities". This would tend to leave the impression that BOWERS had accurately provided the HCUA with information regarding the Klan. Other Klan members seeing this would become extremely upset with BOWERS.

It is anticipated that BOWERS will take the 5th Amendment even in the "closed" sessions.

Consideration is being given to determine if certain Klansmen have Government insured loans or loans placed through a local "Production Credit Association Office", Farm Home Administration, Federal Housing Administration, or Veterans Administration. If it is determined they have such loans, his application will be reviewed for discrepancies or false statements, and Klansmen can be interviewed at length regarding any discrepancies or possible false statement with a view toward prosecution.

We plan to disseminate to IRS copies of our reports on WKKKKOM and the UKA. A subsection of these reports pertains to finances. Generally financial sections of the reports indicate that a large amount of funds are handled by Klan organizations. The funds are obtained through donations, initiation fees, dues, purchase of robes, and contributions to the Legal Defense Fund.

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It has been determined there is no record of any Klan organization, as such, incorporated in the State of Mississippi, and apparently no taxes are being paid to the Federal Government from the funds obtained by these organizations. Armed with this information, IRS could call in Klan officials for hearings to determine if they are violating Federal Tax Laws which could possibly result in prosecution and conviction.

II. PENDING COUNTERINTELLIGENCE ACTION

We will continue contacting and interviewing known and suspected Klansmen as a preventive measure against further acts of violence by the Klan. This also lays the groundwork for informant development. We continue to emphasize importance of developing top notch informants since they provide the basic information needed to plan further counterintelligence action.

III. TANGIBLE RESULTS

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Informants have advised that SAM BOWERS, Imperial Wizard of the WKKKKOM is ready to turn over the reins of that organization to because of intensive investigation by the FBI and at a recent meeting he advised that would have to take over for him. This disrupts their leaderense. It is cooperative to the extent of trying to control violence whereas BOWERS has always advocated violence.

During recent racial demonstrations in Natchez, Mississippi, frequent contacts became necessary with

Bureau Agents have established a line of communication with

so far as we know, has agreed with sureau Agents that violence is not conducive to Klan goals in that it plays into the hands of civil rights leaders and enables civil rights leaders to raise more funds for their activities. Since the racial demonstrations in Natchez, there has not been any indication of violence on the part of the Klan.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

DIRECTOR, FBI (157-9-Main)

DATE: 4/21/66

SAC, JACKSON (157-640)

BJECT: COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAM

INTERNAL SECURITY

DISRUPTION OF HATE GROUPS

Re Bureau letter to Atlanta dated 9/2/64.

I. Potential Counterintelligence Action

PS.

SAM BOWERS, Imperial Wizard of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (WKKKKOM) appeared in a public rally on 4/11/66 sponsored by the White Christian Protective and Legal Defense Fund (WCPLDF) near Laurel, Mississippi, along with all but one of the Klansmen arrested in the DABURN case. BOWERS spoke at length at this rally characterizing the FBI as representatives of the "Anti-Christ." Approximately \$1,000 was collected for the Defense Fund from the estimated two to three thousand people in attendance at this rally and other rallies are tentatively planned throughout the State of Mississippi to raise additional funds.

also spoke at this rally the "other" side of the

story of the burning of the residence of severely criticized the conduct of the FBI investigation in this case and joined with BOWERS in charging the FBI with "persecution of Christians."

Frequent references to the Bible and Biblical quotations characterized the presentation of BOWERS, who is a very effective public speaker with a style of delivery well suited to rural Mississippi audiences. He has a good vocabulary and a good sense of timing, projecting an image of religious sincerity enduring persecution in a time of adversity.

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BOWERS had indicated he will appear with this troupe and speak wherever rallies are scheduled.

Informants in the WKKKKOM have indicated the recent arrest of Klansmen in connection with the DABURN case has severely injured the prestige of this organization and has led many to suggest that the White Knights become an overt political organization with open meetings and a minimum of secrecy.

Efforts are being undertaken to obtain the mailing list of subscribers to "The Southern Review." When this list is obtained it will be used for a direct mailing of an anonymous nature to persons who have been receiving a one-sided view of FBI activities and nothing but favorable references to the subjects arrested in the DABURN case. By separate letter a cartoon sequence is being suggested for adaptation by the Mechanical Section which will caricature BOWERS, though not mentioning him by name, emerging from a Klan robe before a microphone as if addressing a rally. This sequence shows in seven or eight panels the deterioration of the speaker from his original appearance to the form of a serpent still wearing the identifying clothing of the original speaker. Sub-captions accompany each panel, and grossly exaggerate accusations against the FBI which will tend to place statements by and BOWERS in a ridiculous light.

II. Pending Counterintelligence Action

HOLLOWAY BOWERS, and other functionaries of the WKKKKOM involved in the DABURN case, counterintelligence action previously purposed against these individuals, specifically by name, is being held in abeyance to avoid jeopardizing chances for their conviction.

Reference is made to Jackson letter to Bureau dated
4/15/66 entitled in which a
proposal was made to direct the formation of a new "United
Sincere Americans" organization from remnants of present

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JN 157-640

Klan groups. In the event this plan is approved, counterintelligence activity will be simed at effecting a flow of membership in that direction.

III. Tangible Results

Sources in Klan units throughout the State of Mississippi indicated recent contact made by the FBI during the fugitive investigation to locate SAM BOWERS and arrests made of Klansmen in the DABURN case have "broken the back" of the WKKKKOM as an effective state-wide organization leaving many Klan units afraid to meet and convinced that the FBI has penetrated entirely the veil of secrecy surrounding their activity. Those units still meeting have suspended almost all "projects" until further notice and are awaiting leadership which has been lacking during the recent legal acts involving the DABURN case. This climate appears ideal for capturing control of those who still wish to remain active in themew "United Sincere Americans" organization and to destroy what remaining prestige BOWERS might have through the direct mailing which will be proposed by separate letter.

SAC, Jackson (157-640)

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9/6/66

Director, FBI (157-9-54)

COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAM INTERNAL SECURITY DISRUPTION OF HATE GROUPS CAMBRICANS FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE VHITE BACE)

You are requested to advise if it would be feasible for your office to covertly place an order for twelve cases of embalming fluid (24 pints to a case) in the name of of the "APWE Incorporated (Embalmers) in placing such an order, instructions would be given either telephonically or by letter to a funeral supply house that delivery should be made to at either his business or residential address, whichever is most appropriate for our counterintelligence objectives. If this action is feasible, the Bureau is in a position to furnish you business stationery. The order could be placed with a funeral director's supply house in a neighboring city or state which you would be able to readily identify through the yellow pages of a local telephone directory.

If the initial action were successful, it might be possible for you to follow up this ridacule technique by anonymously leaking out elaborate details of the episode to local news media sources and/or by circulating "throwaway" type leaflets to other members of Americans for the Preservation of the White Race.

Advise the Bureau of your comments and any specific recommendations. Do not initiate counterintelligence action without prior Bureau authority. 157-9-5 **DE-18**

- Jackson (157-36) 157-1600 (ADWR)

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> NOTE: Americans for the Preservation of the White Race is an anti-Negro racist organization incorporated in the State (21 Wississippi - Although not affiliated with the note Continued Page Two

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Letter to SAC, Jackson RE: COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAM

members belong to Klan organizations which support its activities.

Of the Americans for the Preservation of the White Race. We believe an organization of this type will be highly susceptible to a reducule technique which very likely we will be able to capitalize upon/follow-up counterintelligence action.

with